

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No. : 09/724,755 Examiner: Jeffrey Fredman  
Applicant(s) : H. Michael Wenz Confirmation No.: 8421  
Filed : November 18, 2000  
TC/A.U. : 1637  
For : **METHODS FOR DETECTING  
TARGET NUCLEIC ACIDS  
USING COUPLED LIGATION  
AND AMPLIFICATION**  
Customer :  
No. 22896

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants now respond to the Office Action mailed April 20, 2006 ("Action"). Applicants respectfully request consideration in view of the following remarks and amended claims.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.